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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|                      |                                |                  |        |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|--------|
| Application No.      | : 10/804,186                   | Confirmation No. | : 6767 |
| First Named Inventor | : Werner DOETSCH               |                  |        |
| Filed                | : March 19, 2004               |                  |        |
| TC/A.U.              | : 1797                         |                  |        |
| Examiner             | : Monzer R. Chorbaji           |                  |        |
| Docket No.           | : 101771.53337US               |                  |        |
| Title                | : Stabilized Hydrogen Peroxide |                  |        |

**REPLY AFTER FINAL ACTION**

**Mail Stop AF**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The following remarks are respectfully submitted in response to the final Office Action mailed March 9, 2010.

***Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103***

**First Obviousness Rejection**

The rejection of claims 4, 7 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Grimberg et al., US 5,609,821 and Feasey et al., US 5,130,053 is respectfully traversed.

***The Present Invention***

The presently claimed invention relates to a method of sterilizing a foodstuff packaging material by passing the packaging material through a dip bath liquid comprising hydrogen peroxide and 200 to 500 ppm of a foodstuff-compatible phosphonic acid. A further requirement for the sterilization process involves using a dip bath liquid that has been previously used to sterilize a foodstuff packaging material. Because a recycled dip bath liquid is used, the resulting liquid is contaminated with packaging material residues. The fact that the contaminated hydrogen peroxide treated with 200 to 500 ppm of the phosphonic acid maintains its stability at higher temperatures is a surprising result.